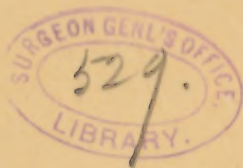


SCHAPPS (J.C.)

An elastic tourniquet



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AN ELASTIC TOURNIQUET.

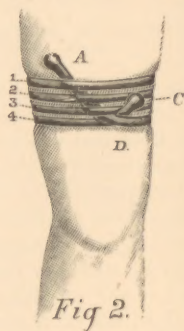
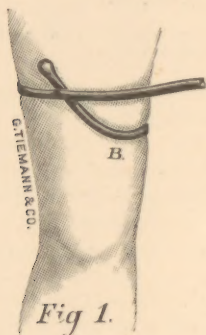
By JOHN C. SCHAPPS, M.D.,

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THE instrument is a modification of the ordinary rubber tube in that each end is closed by a large ball of the same material vulcanized in. The gap formed by the edges is neatly filled, and the seam smoothly finished. Lodgement for dirt is thus avoided. The tube should be about half an inch in diameter, with a thin wall (about No. 16 gauge). A length of three feet will answer for almost any case, though for hip-joint amputation in a stout subject a longer one will be necessary, and for the limb of a small child a shorter one will be more convenient. The object of the balls, or knobs, is to make the instrument self-fastening. No clamp or tie of any kind is necessary. It may, therefore, be very rapidly applied, and with such little skill as to be particularly useful in emergencies. If it be drawn tightly and the ends simply tied together the balls will prevent their loosening. This, however, is not as rapid as the rolling hitch, or as that shown in the cuts. For the sake of clearness of method the tourniquet is represented as loosely put on. In actual use the first turn is stretched around the limb so that the last part of the turn crosses the first part a few inches from the knob (Fig. 1). The limb is thus immediately constricted, and at the same time the ball, with the compressed air in the end of the tube, secures that end so that both hands are free for the application of turns 2, 3, etc. These all cross the first part between the end A and the loop B, which is left uncovered and through which the last knob is thrust from below up-



ward, and thus tightly grasped. In certain situations, as behind the Wyeth pins in hip-joint amputation, where the coils are piled on one another, it is necessary to have the loop B held out of the way. Should it not grasp the end tightly enough a pull on the first part, A,



will make it fast. It will be frequently more convenient to leave free ends of several inches. In such cases the air contained in the tube prevents slipping.

This instrument is made by Messrs. George Tiemann & Co., New York.

498 BEDFORD AVENUE, BROOKLYN.



